



State Of California
California Commission On Teacher Credentialing
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VERIFYING SUBJECT-MATTER COMPETENCE BY EXAMINATION

Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials

Through June 28, 2008, two sets of Commission-approved subject-matter examinations may be used to verify subject-matter competence for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. One set is the Multiple Subjects Assessment for Teachers (MSAT), which was administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS®), and the other is the California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET), administered by National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES). After January 25, 2003, individuals verifying subject matter competence for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential must take the CSET. It is the individual's responsibility to take the correct examination(s) and to contact the Commission when questions arise. Passing exam scores must be used for credentialing purposes within five years of the passing test date.

Transition from MSAT to the California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET)

On January 25, 2003, the CSET in multiple subjects replaced the MSAT. The CSET reflects the recently revised K-12 California Student Academic Content Standards. Given the significant differences in content and test structures between the examinations in the CSET program and MSAT, it is not appropriate to combine scores across the testing programs. Individuals interested in satisfying the subject matter competence requirement for the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential by examination must take and pass all appropriate sections of the CSET.

Information About CSET

The CSET Multiple Subjects exam comprises three subtests. Each subtest covers specific domains, and each includes multiple-choice and constructed-response items. The three subtests measure knowledge in the following areas:

- Subtest I: reading, language and literature; history and social science
- Subtest II: science; mathematics
- Subtest III: physical education; human development; visual and performing arts

► Please see [Table 1](#) for more details.

Questions

If you have questions about the subject-matter examinations required for your credential, please call the Commission at (916) 445-7254 or (888) 921-2682, or e-mail at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.

If you have questions about the administration of the CSET examinations or would like to obtain registration bulletins or fee information, please contact NES at the postal address, e-mail address, phone number or website listed below.

CSET

National Evaluation Systems, Inc.

P.O. Box 340789

Sacramento, CA 95834-0789

(916) 928-4003

TDD (916) 928-4191

Automated Information system (available 24 hours daily): (800) 205-3334

Web site: <http://www.cset.nesinc.com>

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CSET Subject-Matter Examinations for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials

Table 1 is a list of the subtests and their domains for the CSET examinations used to verify subject-matter competence for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials. Passing examination scores must be used for certification purposes within five years of the individual passing test date.

TABLE 1

California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET)

Subtest and Domains Covered	Items per Test Form	Passing Score	Test Length
<i>Subtest I: Reading, Language and Literature; History and Social Science</i>	52 multiple-choice (26 in each area) 4 constructed-response (2 in each area)	220	See note below
<i>Subtest II: Science; Mathematics</i>	52 multiple-choice (26 in each area) 4 constructed-response (2 in each area)	220	See note below
<i>Subtest III: Physical Education; Human Development; Visual and Performing Arts</i>	39 multiple-choice (13 in each area) 3 constructed-response (1 in each area)	220	See note below

Note: CSET examinees will be provided five uninterrupted hours of testing time in which to complete, in the order of their choice, any or all subtests for which they have registered.

MSAT Subject-Matter Examinations for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials

The following is a list of the titles, numbers, and passing scores for the MSAT examinations used to verify subject-matter competence for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials. The final administration of the MSAT took place on June 28, 2003. Passing examination scores must be used for certification purposes within five years of the individual passing test date.

TABLE 2

Praxis II Multiple Subjects Assessments for Teachers (MSAT)

Examination and Number	Passing	Minimum
Content Knowledge (#10140)	156	148
Content Area Exercises (#20151)	155	147
Overall MSAT Passing Score	311	

Interpreting MSAT Scores

Through June 28, 2003, individuals were given the option to pass the MSAT by achieving scores at or above the individual passing scores on both sections of the test. One could also pass by scoring at or above the individual minimum scores on both sections **and** earning a total score that equals or exceeds the overall MSAT passing score. Passing and minimum scores from several administrations may be combined, but the total score must meet the current overall MSAT passing score.

Applying For Your Multiple Subject Teaching Credential

Verifying subject-matter competence is only one of the required steps to obtaining a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. Please refer to leaflet Multiple Subject Teaching Credential Requirements for Teachers Prepared Outside of California ([CL-561](#)) or Multiple Subject Teaching Credential Requirements for Teachers Prepared in California ([CL-561C](#)) for details on the application process.